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POST WAR AMATEUR RADIO

-- By J. W. Ballinger. VK3NK --

Seeing the request for entries for the "Essay" on Post War Amateur Radio, especially from VK3 members, I will try to the best of my ability to express my views on this all important subject. Firstly, the important question of whether W.I.A. should have permanent staff or not - definitely I think that there should be a permanent staff on lines similar to the A.R.R.L., although not quite so elaborate, but with a good technical staff to help amateurs as occasion arises and to improve the technical articles in "Amateur Radio." Also a good secretarial staff to handle the correspondence that will greatly increase after the war as more and more amateurs join W.I.A. On the question of frequencies I think that the lowest frequency band (200 meter phone band) should be omitted and more use made of the 28,000 & 56,000kc/s bands. There should also be a section of the 3,500, 7,000, & 14,000 kc/s bands allotted to phone transmitters and a section of these bands allotted to CW transmitters, so as to reduce QRN etc. More field days should be organised by the different sections in each state, especially for 28,000 & 56,000 kc/s communication and experimental work.

On the subject of power I think that an increase from the present 25 watts to 50 watts should be granted by the P.M.G. and after a certain period if the operator has not caused any interference to broadcast listeners and has efficiently shown that he is capable of using high power, his division of the W.I.A. should have the power to grant him a further increase in power up to 100 watts. I also think that all transmitters should be crystal controlled and a monitoring post established by permanent staff of W.I.A. to keep a check on the quality of signals transmitted by the different amateur stations.

I also think that every amateur should be a full member of the W.I.A. and help make it a bigger and better organisation. It is for the good of every amateur station to have a good representative body at the head of amateur radio in this country. I think that when the new call lists come out at different periods during the year the W.I.A. should put their pamphlet "Organisation and advantages of membership," before all the new amateurs and try and get their help

in getting amateur radio on a sound footing in Australia. I definitely think that the P.M.G. should invest in the W.I.A. a larger degree of control over amateur radio than has been given in the past. I also think that the Service and Civilian Defence Reserves should be organised and maintained by means of a government subsidy. My ideas of the post war Amateur Radio Station are that the station be crystal controlled with a power of up to 50 watts, and capable of operating on all the frequencies allotted to Amateur Radio, also that the station have a very efficient method of monitoring and checking of frequency, the receiver be a superhet. A directional antenna system would also be a great asset. I think that amateurs should also be given the same privileges as in pre-war days, except that they be granted an increase in power from 25 watts to 50 watts, and permission to carry out television experiments if they so desire. Another very important matter I think the W.I.A. could help in would be in the organisation of a communications system in the fire areas, living in the area of the disastrous grass fire which wiped out the town-ship of Dorrinallum and miles of country around the district, I know from first-hand information what a terrible job it was to get any news through as all phone wires were down and the only means of communication was by a car necessitating a journey of from 30 to 50 miles or more, whereas if the amateurs of this district were organised they could handle the emergency traffic and help the bush fire fighters to get a better idea of how the fire is going.

Re the Institute's Magazine "Amateur Radio," I think that it could be improved in a number of ways. The technical articles could be made larger and cover more fields of the technical side of amateur radio. A DX column on the same lines as the "How's DX" column of Q.S.T. would also, I feel sure, be very much appreciated by the members who are interested in the DX side of amateur radio. Also the different section notes in each of the divisions could be improved by the W.I.A. offering a small annual prize to the station that is most consistent in sending in it's monthly report - a correspondence section whereby amateurs could air their views on matters of interest, grouches, etc.

Amateur radio clubs in the areas where there are a number of amateurs would be a benefit to the promotion of amateur radio. In the matter of competitions, I think there should be at least one for the amateurs out where there are no AC mains, and they have to rely on "B" Batts or vibrator unit for power. The real low power amateurs do not have much chance against the high power amateurs, I think something should be done for the low power chaps in the way of a low power competition. I think that the international contests should still be held as they always create a great deal of interest in the world of amateur radio - I think the competitive spirit should be fostered. The Q.S.I. Bureau should be continued in each of the divisions as it was such a great success in pre-war amateur days.

A "UTILITY" VALVE VOLTMETER

The instrument to be described makes no pretence to displace the more conventional valve voltmeter employing a sensitive moving coil movement (probably in the micro-ampere range), nor does it claim a very high standard of accuracy. Rather has it been designed as a "utility" instrument requiring, for its construction only components which the average amateur is already likely to possess. At the same time its sensitivity is quite high, full scale deflection being 3 volts. The meter used has a 5 milliampere moving coil movement and partly by virtue of the robustness of the movement and partly because of the DC amplifier valve it is practically impossible to damage the instrument by overloading.

The arrangement employs a DC amplifier following a grid-leak detector and due to the phase reverse which takes place between the detector and the amplifier, the meter scale reads from left to right.

The action seems to be as follows:- After preliminary heating up, the potentiometer R1 is adjusted until the meter indicates zero on the dial. This is an arbitrary point but obviously as far to the left as possible so that the maximum length of scale is available for calibration. The voltage to be measured is now applied across AB. The positive pulses transferred to the grid of V1 by way of C1 cause a PD to be developed across the grid leak R2 which biases the grid negatively and so reduces the anode current. This reduces the voltage drop over R3 with the result that the potential at the point P rises. This reduces the bias on the grid of V2 by way of R4 with the result that an increase in anode current takes place in V2 which is indicated on the meter.

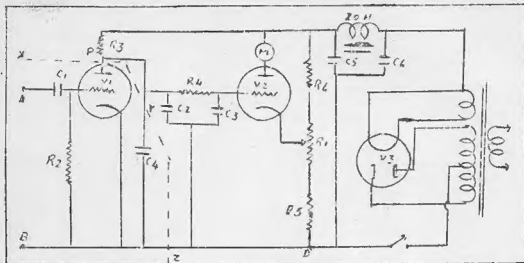
R4, C2, and C3 form a filter system which smooths out the pulsating DC and prevents excessive vibration of the needle. The time constant of this filter combination can be varied to provide any degree of damping for the movement, which may be desired.

The components within the area bounded by the dotted line XYZ constitute the detector unit which is separate and detachable. The valve is an RF pentode connected as a triode. The idea is to use a tube having a top grid connection. The tube is surmounted by a shield which earths to the metalising of the valve, and inside this shield are the grid leak and condenser. The terminal A is mounted in the centre of a disc of polystyrene or other suitable insulation covering the end of the shield.

For audio and lower frequencies this unit can be plugged straight into the main unit. For measurement of higher frequencies however, a flexible extension has been made. One end of this is equipped with a male 7 pin plug, while the other terminated in a valve holder into which the detector unit can be plugged, the other end

of the extension being inserted in the socket from which the valve has been withdrawn. The terminal A can now be brought right up to the position where measurements are required. The extension carries the heater and power supplies and a by-pass condenser C4.

The resistors which form the voltage divider across the HT need to be of ample rating as the whole of the current for the amplifier stage plus the bleeder current must be carried.



R1.....10,000 ohms
R2.....10 megohm
R3.....0.25 "
R4.....2 megohm
R5.....5000 ohms
R6.....60,000 ohms

C1.....0.01 mfd
C2,3.....0.1 mfd
C4.....0.001 mfd
C5,6.....4 mfd
V1.....6X4
V2.....MH4

CALIBRATION.. Owing to the high value of grid leak and comparatively large capacity of grid condenser, the reading approximates very closely to the peak value. If, therefore, the instrument is likely to be used to measure complex or peaky waveforms, this fact must be remembered if calibration is carried out at 50 c/s AC (RMS)

For this instrument the zero was chosen at a value of plate current of only a few microamperes above cut-off, where the characteristic is not by any means straight, with the result that the adjustment of this point at each time of use is rather a ticklish job. It would have been better to have chosen a valve of one or two milliamps where the characteristic is straight. It will be found that the calibration is logarithmic in character so that the

scale is more open at low readings--a distinct advantage.

PERFORMANCE:..After allowing a warming up period of about 15 minutes, the meter remains fairly stable and an accuracy of 2 or 3 per cent can be expected if readings are made as required. If however, the meter is connected in circuit for long periods, the chief limitation of most DC amplifiers makes itself apparent. This is due to the very great difference between the static (no reading) and deflected conditions in the meter circuit. Under this latter condition of use an error of over 5 percent had been noted. If, however, the zero is reset by adjustment of R1 as required, the performance satisfies most requirements.

No serious attempt had been made to extend the range of the instrument except by an input potential divider made up of a chain of high resistance leaks.

The instrument has been used in making measurements on gramophone pick-ups at frequencies between 8 Kc/s and 25 c/s and its low range has made it very useful in this connection. It has also been used to measure induced voltages across resonant circuits up to as high a frequency as 14 Mc/s and although it begins to load the circuit somewhat at this frequency, it has very little effect on, say, the oscillator of a broadcast superhet.

From R.S.G.B. Bulletin.

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LUMINESCENT MATERIALS

Development of now and highly efficient luminescent materials by scientists in RCA Laboratories gives promise of opening of new fields of activities in the post war era, according to an article by H. W. Leverenz.

He points out that phosphors are unique in being able to convert electric power into white or colored light more efficiently than by any other known practical means. Also they can store light for controllable time intervals from less than one hundred thousandth of a second to more than twenty-four hours, and can instantaneously transform invisible radiations such as cathode or ultra-violet rays, into visible light.

Possible uses for phosphors are stated to include intense light sources for sound recording and theatre projection, inexpensive illumination of workplaces and homes by using phosphor crystals in fluorescent lamps, luminescent plastics to make night time safer and more colourful, and phosphors emitting specific radiations for controlled treatment of living tissues and organisms.

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AMATEUR TEST EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

By

Charles C. Quin..VK3WQ

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It seems that in post war Amateur Radio the Ham will have to justify his existence as a Ham to the full extent of his Licence. By this is meant that an AOCIP is granted for the express purpose of "carrying out experiments in wireless transmission."

In the past, many of us - now please don't take offence - were in Ham Radio mainly for the purpose of one or two reasons. Firstly the class that may be called DX fiends, who put so much time into the search for that elusive Dx that all thought of experimental radio was put into the background. Secondly were those chaps who had to entertain the BCL's.

Now I don't want to start a commotion amongst readers who may think that this article is written to 'pick' on to the abovementioned classes of Ham, and I am not writing this with the express intention of causing a special section to be started in this Magazine to discuss the subject. Suffice to say that you take it as read and chew it over, keeping in mind what is mentioned in the first paragraph.--- Having got that off my chest -- to continue.

Whenever a new rig or receiver was contemplated, it was usually prompted by an article in Amateur Radio or some other magazine devoted to radio. A frantic search through the junk box or old discarded equipment brought to light most of the necessary components and the balance was purchased from your favourite radio store and the apparatus was then put together and tested.

On the other hand however, you may have been more experimentally minded and 'doped' out your own circuits, and methods of construction. A search of radio stores for parts then followed to obtain the required standard of accuracy within a certain percentage.

It is intended to give over a period a short review of test apparatus of a nature which the average Ham can afford and which will give the required results. This article deals with the first piece of essential equipment, and it is intended to give a talk and demonstration as each article appears in Amateur Radio for that particular month. These talks will be given each month at the Victorian Division meeting, and anyone unable to attend the meetings and is interested in the subject are invited to contact "A.R."

With the trend to the use of higher frequencies much more accuracy of values is necessary in order to obtain the required results.

A means of measuring these parts will then be apparent and a bridge of some sort to check up the components to be used is found necessary. The following is a suggested bridge to suit the limited means of most hams. The bridge has already been written up in this magazine for May 1941.

Whilst no claims are made for EXTREME accuracy within a certain percentage it is quite accurate enough to show if a condenser is .01 or .099 or .11

This bridge can also be used to indicate the power or loss factor of condensers on the higher capacities which can be read directly by means of the 2500 ohm potentiometer in series with the 1 mfd standard.

To check up on the lower capacities the amount of "fuzzy" indicated by the 'Ego' will indicate the state of the condenser or resistor.

A worth-while addition to this bridge is the neon tube leak indicator, which by its frequency of flash indicates the condition of the condenser. A good condenser will only flash on application of voltage, whilst a poor one will flash at short intervals.

Naturally good standards are absolutely necessary, and also good quality switches for changing from one standard to another. Good regulation from the power supply is also necessary for the best results, and if possible a voltage regulator tube should be used.

When building up this bridge, care must be exercised to keep the grid of the eye away from all other leads or false readings will result. A good feature is that the "cold" side of the bridge need not be earthed or on the other hand, any components under test need not be entirely disconnected from any apparatus being checked--it being only necessary to ensure that the "hot" side of the bridge to be connected to the free end of the component under test...this is providing the apparatus is not earthed or connected to the light mains.

Resistors from 10 ohms to 30 megohms and condensers from 10 mfd to 30 mfd can be checked with an accuracy of between 1 and 5 per cent throughout the whole range.

Operation is the same as tuning a signal to zero beat...i.e. when the eye is fully open the value of the component under test is then read off the calibrated scale. It will also be noticed even on the extreme ranges of both capacity and resistance the eye will open or close over "resonance" and the effect will be noticed as the slider goes over each turn of wire on the resistance strip of the potentiometer. Quoting this points out that a good quality potentiometer is essential.

This article together with a circuit will be continued in next month's issue.

THE TECHNICAL LIBRARY

THE TECHNIQUE OF RADIO DESIGN .. E. E. Zepler (Lond. 1943)
311 pages .. 35/-

RADIO RECEIVER DESIGN...K. R. Sturley. Part 1 R.F. Amplification
and Detection (Lond. 1943) 435 p.----48/6.

These books are grouped together in this review for several reasons...they cover the same ground, are both by Marconi engineers, both appeared at the same time and they are both in the top line of radio manuals. The only difference of any importance is that Sturley deals with his subject more fully than does his colleague.

There has been, until the appearance of these two books a total lack of any work devoted entirely to receiver design, but that position has been well and truly remedied.

The following is a summary of the chapter headings in Zepler's book and although the chapter headings in the other book are not the same, the material is substantially the same. Symbols, Useful Formulas, Fundamental Theoretical Facts, Transfer of Energy from the Aerial. The Amplifier Stage, Problems of Detection and Frequency Changing, Selectivity, Receiver Noise, Gain Control, The Principles of Screening, Undesired Feedback, Hum and Spurious Beats, Distortion, Parasitic Resonances, Power Supply, Routine Measurements, Fault Finding. (It must be understood that Sturley covers only the R.F. and detection end, Part 2 of his book is in the press).

The best chapters in both books are those dealing with Aerial Coils and with Screening. Either of these books can be heartily recommended.

TIME BASES SCANNING GENERATORS.
O. S. Puckle (London 1943) ... 204 pages ... 26/6.

An excellent specialist volume dealing with a subject that has a surprisingly wide field. As may be seen from the following summary ... Introduction, Time Base Wave Forms, Types of Time Base -- operated from AC supply -- from DC supply, Hard Valve Types and externally operated. Then follows Trigger Circuits, Blocking Oscillators and Inductive Time Bases, Polar Co-ordinate Multiple and Velocity Modulation Time Bases, Linearisation of the Trace, Push-pull deflection, Synchronisation of Time Bases, and use of a time base for frequency division.

After pausing for breath Mr. Puckle then dives into a bunch of Appendices (the literary kind of course) as follows:- The Cathode Ray Tube, The Curvature of the Charging Characteristic. The Characteristics of a Gas Discharge Tube used as a Time Base Discharger Valve, Differentiating and Integrating Circuit. The Generation of Square Waves and etc etc.

SLOUCH HATS and FORAGE CAPS

Well, I simply hate to say it, and it is no doubt heresy or fifth column, or the act of a quising, but, thank goodness for Victoria, as without them this months notes would just about cease at the beginning. I often wonder where all the lads who were to supply me with notes (one from each state) are????? Any VK2,4,5,6, or 7 wanting the job please advise me and I will fix it with the Manpower. Hi! Gee, when I read that first sentence I am of the opinion that I had better keep away from the VK2 Division Meeting for a year or so. Hi!

Staff/Sgt Peter Vesper VK2PV has come to a stop at Ingleburn Camp Hospital after quite a bit of touring round, including a trip to Papua in the early "hot" days up there. So if the medicine tastes crook at the camp, you know who to blame. Hi! But crook medicine is, as some used to maintain about RAC (the "R-cr" the better) it gets to the right spot.

Petty Officer Jim Kerley has moved South again and may be found at the Naval Depot at Flinders. Last time we mentioned Jim in this page we gave him a few letters after his name, which moved him to write a letter correcting our mistake. I've left the letters out this time but would be pleased to receive a letter (3NY). Incidentally, a laddie named Burke who worked with you, Jim, stays just near 2YCs.

VK3EC. We are indebted to Mrs. E. Cook of Swan Hill for some news of her husband Sgt. E. Cook of the R.A.A.F. 3EC has been stationed in the Darwin area for some time now and we understand that he is fairly close to Darwin. He is attached to the Office of Engineering Production at Headquarters, and is with a mobile unit. His address is Group 34, and he would be pleased to contact any other hams in this area (there must be quite a few, om..including, now 3RJ..2YC)

In Group 671 Darwin are 3EM Cpl Ted Manifold, and also Cpl. Clem Day 3GY. Both of these are looking forward to a spot of leave after fifteen months service up there. Both Ted and Clem have stuck together from the commencement of the initial course over two years ago. Also in this Group is E/Lt D.C. Stalker of Colac, better known as VK3XJ.

Sgt./Ldr. Pat Boyd 3PB who recently figured in some good work up "north" is also stationed in the Darwin Area, after his long spell overseas.

Lt. Jack Davis VK2AFY is OC of a Radar W/Shop in VK4. He says "boy of boy, wait till I get back on the air again...have I got some bright ideas. Hi!" ... just haven't we all..2YC. However Jack has now o yf a Sgt. in charge of some of his equipment, and who hails from VK3, so I guess she has some "bright ideas" for Jack, as all good wires have for us all, Hi!

Had a visit the other day from W7RA, whom as is the case with all hams at 2YC, we were very pleased to see. This lad is a pretty silent worker. Came to VK3 in '42, and somehow or other missed you all there. But in Northern Vic he struck 4EC, thence to Brisbane and more hams, then to Sydney to see VK2W, O, 2ABG and others. Even took a dash up to Canberra to see 2ID. He didn't know the Navy up there was full of Hams and may even make another trip. Norm is "sold on the Aussie Tea idea" and when he gets home the family had better get good and ready to quit "cawfee" and get on to tea. Hi! Norm is at present at Milne Bay.

Sgt. Ted Peppercorn 2JF is out of New Guinea and fondly hopes he never sees it again..at least the parts he knows already. Ted received a notice with an awful red remark "This and Final Notice" ... but the other two haven't caught up yet. Ted's time is taken up now with instructional work and looking after a W/P Workshop. He wants to know where one gets 16 gauge cadmium plated steel boxes and chassis made up...the answer Ted is "where, of where".

Jack Coulter 3WV is now Telegraphist on H.M.A.S. Mildura..keeping the sea lanes open somewhere in the West or beyond. He reports having Ted Marley 4GJ as a passenger on one trip. When all round his luck with Hams has been right out. "Cpt" Right 4H was on board and he missed him and worse still while in a US Naval base a York Lt. or Cpt. put head in the cabin door and called out "any Hams here." But, alas, for 3WV, he just couldn't answer at the moment and when he could chase that yank he was gone forever. Hi! 3WV thinks the call was W7EYD.

Charlie Miller 4US/2ADF is stationed at Amberley, but would much prefer to be closer to the Jnr. ops Ian Charles and his older sister Heather. Chas thinks that possibly he may not be on the air quite so much after the War. Hi!

VK3JR another ex 200 mx man in the R.A.A.F. has the rank of Flt/Lt Chris Rainbow. Chris writes "At present I am Inspection Officer covering an area from Onslow to Albany in W.A., travelling by aircraft or car. Naturally radio is a section of the work I am interested in. In the Service I have met hams from all parts of the world and interesting ragchews were indulged in. Met Col. Ferguson VK5CJ on my last leave. He was then a W/O Signals R.A.A.F. and was going for his commission."

I don't know how I've waited and waited for Sqd/Ldr Arthur Waltz 4W to visit me and dig out the air-mail shelter. Well he arrived OK this past Saturday and when I opened the door he handed me a message card saying "Material patient, too sick to work!!! An officer - huh so he sez - but a....well I ask you!!! Glad to see you anyway Arthur and I'll keep the job "open for you" Hi!

And that just leaves me a little space to put in what is called my "usual range". You can all sing it with me "where's those notes???" The QM is Jim Corbin, 78 Maloney St. Eastlake, Mascot and the 'phone number is MU1092....and Hams are always welcome.

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D I V I S I O N A L N O T E S .

- NEW SOUTH WALES DIVISION -

The August General Meeting of the Division was held at Y.M.C.A. Buildings on Thursday 17th August. The attendance was quite a good one and the Chairman in declaring the meeting open extended a welcome to Petty Officer Telegraphist J. L. Harris VK2ALG, Petty Officer Telegraphist Frank O'Dwyer VK2CF, Sergeant Harry Moncel VK2YY, Norman Jannin VK2FX, Jeff Savage VK2AD and Alex Borlan ex-XTT.

Members were informed that a re-shuffle in Office Bearers had taken place since the last General Meeting both the Secretary W. G. Ryan VK2TI and the Chairman R. A. Fricke VK2RA having asked Council to relieve them of the various duties attached to these Offices. As a result of this re-shuffle the Meeting was informed that Val Ryan VK2TI had been unanimously elected Chairman and Mr. Chas. Higgins VK2IO was the new Secretary. It was decided to place on record the Division's appreciation of the sterling work performed by ERA as Chairman of the Division, a position he had occupied for the past few years. The new Chairman VK2TI stated that upon many occasions he had been given all the credit for the J.C.W. but this was not true as ERA, and he alone, was responsible for planning the scheme. TI also went on to say that during his eight years as Secretary of the Division he had been associated with three Chairmen, all of whom had been a tower of strength to the Institute, but of these three men, he felt confident in saying that ERA had had a most difficult job in guiding the Institute during the war years and for that reason alone his work had been of the utmost value, and that he was entitled to be numbered among the stalwarts of the Institute.

The meeting was informed that the Bushfires Advisory Committee had requested the Institute to obtain a Census of Equipment and available Personnel in order to inaugurate a Bush Fires Radio Network. This is good news for Country Amateurs and by now you should have received a questionnaire in connection with this matter. The B.F.A.C. were anxious to put this scheme into operation immediately but before committing the Institute to any action it was felt that it would be preferable to have some knowledge of what would be available. It is fully realised that quite a number of Country Amateurs are on Service and that others left the Country for the City. One thing is certain however and that is this, the Network will go into operation as soon as possible even if only on a small scale and thus provide a nucleus for the time when the boys come home again.

Briefly the scheme calls for a number of portable transmitters to operate at the scene of the fire, a forward base station to maintain communication with the Firefighters and the town. It is anticipated that frequencies will be in the 5-3 megacycle band.

Many times in the past the value of the E.C.N. has been stressed as a means of demonstrating the value of the Australian Amateur to the powers that be. Here is the first evidence of that demonstration. If the Australian Amateur is to take his place in Emergency Communication in the very rapidly approaching days of Peace the most important avenue will be Relief work and what more important to Australia is the control and eradication of Bushfires.

When the E.C.N. was first formed quite a few Country Amateurs felt that they had been left out in the cold and that their interests had been overlooked. Perhaps they had some reason to feel this way but it was pointed out at that particular time that the Institute had no say in the location of stations. The Bushfires Net should be an answer to this criticism. Go to it fellows. Remember the size of the scheme will depend entirely upon the response to the circular.

The British Broadcasting Corporation are anxious to make comparisons with their Pacific Service and that of the Germans, and has asked the co-operation of experienced listeners. The Senior Radio Inspector has asked the assistance of the Institute in this matter and this had been willingly pledged. The Tests will be held over the first seven days of each month September, October, November, December and Report Forms will be sent to fifteen different members of the Division each month. Every member who receives a circular is asked to co-operate and remember this, you are only asked to do this one month. By this means it is anticipated that every member of the Institute will have participated and thus an excellent cross sectional coverage will be obtained.

At the conclusion of General Business, three informal talks were given by the visitors commencing with P/O Tel W. Harris, who gave a vivid description of the action off Guadalcanal and the sinking of H.M.A.S. Canberra - on which he was stationed at the time, and gave the lie direct to many rumors as to the actual cause of her sinking.

Wilf was followed by Sergeant Harry Mondel who gave a humorous description of the difficulties encountered when Radio gear went "troppo."

Our American visitor turned out to be one of the quietest of the species that we have yet encountered and can't understand why the W6's could work the VK's so easily. He reckoned it was all in the question of antennas. Some of the lads didn't altogether agree. In fact they had a bit to say about the "California Kilowatt."

The next General Meeting of the Division will be held at Y.M.C.A. Buildings on Thursday 21st September and a cordial invitation is extended to all Amateurs to be present.

RADIO COMMUNICATION NETWORK.

With the Battle of the Pacific rapidly drawing to an end and hostilities getting closer to Japan it was logical to expect that there would be some re-organisation with regard to National Emergency Services.

The Premier, Mr. W. J. McKell has decreed that whilst all exercises are to be reduced to a minimum, key personnel are to be retained.

The point was stressed that the Network is now considered a very important if not the most important part of the N.E.S. organisation and no slackening off is to be observed. This indeed was a great compliment and reflects no little credit on the splendid work that operators have done and will still continue to do.

Exercises are now held on the First Tuesday and Third Monday of each month and although the traffic handled is not as great as previously, enough messages are received to make the Exercises quite interesting.

Here is a message to all Network personnel bearing upon previous paragraphs. With the falling off in N.E.S. activities you may be reasonably forgiven for feeling that there is not much use in attending your station each month. Nothing is further from the truth. I ask you to realise that the Network only came into being after a three years struggle to be recognised. The Amateur movement has gained a tremendous advertisement from the operations of the Network. If it is decided that the Department of National Emergency Services is to be discontinued, it is up to every operator to see that the Network functions right up to the time that this decision is made. **NOT TO DO NOTHING THAT WOULD HASTEN THE DECISION.** Quoting an extremely hypothetical case, it must never be said that one of the reasons for closing down N.E.S. was the failure of the Radio system. I trust I have made myself clear!

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VICTORIA DIVISION .

This division has been approached by the Forests Commission with a suggestion whereby Institute Members in certain country areas could co-operate with the Commission's Radio network. While at present no definite scheme has been evolved, Council in an endeavour to ascertain what Members and how they can assist in any scheme, a circular will be received by Hams in certain areas in the course of the next few days.

As pointed out earlier, only Hams in certain areas will receive this questionnaire, which they are asked to read carefully, and at the same time answer the questions very carefully, as the information is vital to any scheme which may come into being. Hams receiving this questionnaire are asked to treat the matter as URGENT.

Non-financial members are notified that this issue SEPTEMBER will be the LAST forwarded until such time as they renew their subscriptions.

At last Council meeting all Officers were re-elected for the ensuing term. Messrs. R. Marriott, Chairman of Council; R. A. C. Anderson, Secretary; and J. G. Marsland, Treasurer. Sergeant A. R. (Bill) Williams was appointed to Council as Country Representative.

As promised in the last issue a further report of the Annual General Meeting would be included in this issue. The meeting was predominated by members of the services as well as being truly representative of all States including America. These included:- Major D. Kneek VK2KC; F/L John Traill VK2XQ; F/L D. H. Dougan VK2AMF; Sgt. Les Taylor VK2GL; F/L R. C. Harris VK5FL; F/s H. Dangerfield VK4MT; Major Ivan Miller VK3EG; F/L W. J. Nicholls VK3WX; F/s N. Foxcroft VK2UQ; Capt. G. I. Patterson VK3YP; Wing Commander W. Grenow VK3TG; and Charles Garvey WB7WN T/Sgt. Victorian Council hopes that these Hams will be regular visitors at the meetings in future.

Also present were representatives from the Victorian Railways Institute Radio Club well known in pre-war days as VK3RI. These members of 3RI were: Messrs. D'Brien, Orchard and Sykes. The Victorian Division extends a cordial invitation to all members of the Club to attend the Victorian Division meetings.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Plowman (VK3QC) on the recent arrival of a YL on.

....000....

WANTED TO BUY, SELL OR EXCHANGE.

Readers are invited to advertise their wanted to buy, sell or exchange under this heading....Rates....sixpence per line.

WANTED TO PURCHASE.

WANTED - Split-Stator Condenser, double spaced, not more than 100mmfd in each section, also midget type of same capacity not necessarily double spaced. Full particulars to W. G. Ryan, 21 Tunstall Avenue, Kingsford, N.S.W. (If equipment is under seal, arrangements will be made for release.)

THE WIRELESS INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA



Divisions of the Wireless Institute of Australia exist in every State of the Commonwealth. The activities of these Divisions are co-ordinated by Federal Headquarters Division, the location of which is determined from time to time by ballot.

Present location of F.H.Q. :— New South Wales

Federal President : F. P. DICKSON, VK2AFB.

Vice-President : H. F. PETERSON, VK2HP. **Federal Secretary :** W. G. RYAN, VK2TI.

Councillors : C. FRYAR, VK2NP ; W. J. McELREA, VK2UV

Official Organ : "AMATEUR RADIO"—Published by the Victorian Division.

VICTORIAN DIVISION

191 QUEEN ST., MELBOURNE

Postal Address : Box 2611W, G.P.O.

President : H. N. STEVENS, VK3JO

Secretary : R. A. C. ANDERSON, VK3WY

Treasurer : J. G. MARSLAND, VK3NY

Councillors : I. MORGAN, VK3DH; T. D. HOGAN, VK3HX; R. J. MARRIOTT, VK3SI; C. QUIN, VK3WQ; A. H. CLYNE, VK3VX; H. BURDEKIN; K. RIDGWAY.

Subscription Rates

Metropolitan	£1 per annum
Country	14/6 per annum
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Subscription includes "AMATEUR RADIO"

Meeting Night

First Tuesday in each month at W.I.A. Rooms,
191 Queen Street.

Visiting Overseas and Interstate Amateurs are welcome at meetings and they are invited to communicate with the Membership Secretaries :

T. D. HOGAN . . VK3HX . . UM1732

J. G. MARSLAND VK3NY . . WF3958

NEW SOUTH WALES DIVISION

Registered Office :

21 TUNSTALL AV., KINGSFORD

Telephone : FX3305

Postal Address : Box 1734JJ, G.P.O., Sydney

Meeting Place

Y.M.C.A. BUILDINGS, PITT ST., SYDNEY

President : R. A. PRIDDLE, VK2RA

Vice-Presidents : H. F. PETERSON, VK2HP ;
E. HODGKINS, VK2EH.

Secretary : W. G. RYAN, VK2TI

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Councillors : N. GOUGH, VK2NG; E. TREHARNE,
VK2AFQ; P. DICKSON, VK2AFB; C. FRYAR, VK2NP;
R. MILLER

Subscription Rates

Full Members	10/6 per annum
Service Members	7/6 per annum

The N.S.W. Division meets on the third Thursday of each month at Y.M.C.A. Buildings, Pitt St., Sydney and an invitation is accorded to all Amateurs to attend. Overseas and Interstate Amateurs who are unable to attend are asked to phone the Secretary at FX3305.

WESTERN AUST. DIVISION

C.M.L. Buildings,

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